

CONFIDENTIAL
OFFICE OF COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION
SECURITY BRANCH

25 March 1947

MEMORANDUM TO: Legislative Counsel

Subject: Executive Order on Loyalty Standards

1. A preliminary review of the President's Executive Order covering loyalty investigations, etc. reveals the following provisions that may be unsatisfactory from a CIG point of view:

Part II-3

Unilateral right of appeal could prove a security threat to the organization unless there are adequate safeguards for secrecy within the Review Board.

Part II-5

The reports to the Review Board provided for in this section probably would require revelation of CIG internal operations.

Part III-1A

The objections for this section are similar to those shown under Part II-3 above in that the right of an individual concerned to refer his case directly to the Review Board would give an essentially disloyal person the opportunity of disclosing details of the organization and its operations.

Part III-1C3

The coordinating function envisaged might be in conflict with CIG which also has coordinating functions and which certainly should employ standards higher than those applicable to the government as a whole.

Part III-2 & 2A

A central master index unless properly secured would reveal all persons employed or considered by CIG. This provision if strictly interpreted could also apply to clandestine personnel and despite the precaution embodied in 2B might disclose to an undesirable extent names of persons in CIG.

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Part VI-1

The question arises as to whether it is desirable for even the FBI to know precisely who composes the membership of CIG. Admittedly that agency has a strong clue in so far as it conducts checks on applicants but assumedly it does not know precisely who has been accepted for membership in CIG.

2. In view of the foregoing it would appear desirable to seek exemption for CIG from provisions (or certain of them) of this Executive Order on the grounds that CIG loyalty standards would be higher than those of other agencies.

3. If exemption from all or part of the Executive Order cannot be obtained every precaution should be taken to insure the security of information developed within the Civil Service Commission Review Board in connection with the operation of the loyalty program.

Chief, Security Branch

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